

The original University Microfilms building, now many times expanded, is still an integral part of the modern quarters. A recent picture forms part of the masthead on page 2 of *MICROCOSM*.

MOVE TO NEW ADDITION DOUBLES UNIVERSITY MICROFILMS' SPACE

Increased Plant Production
Will Follow Move to New
Quarters

At the time the funeral parlor seemed to offer certain advantages over the other locations considered. For one thing there was space for a darkroom, and hot and cold running water available. Then, too, it was quiet, and a man could work in peace.

The man was Eugene Power. The work was his first microfilm project. The time was 1936. The funeral parlor was home to University Microfilms.

In 1938 the First Street property was acquired—a small contractor's office shared at first with the contractor but soon taken over entirely by the cumbersome drying racks, a Photorecord camera, and the other bulky paraphernalia of the photographic laboratory. In 1943 the first completely automatic processor was installed in an expanded building, and there has been a physical expansion about every four years since that date. In fact each succeeding year has seen an increased growth of facilities and equipment.

This year—20 years after the first move to 313 North First as University Microfilms—a doubling of the physical plant has been achieved through the acquisition of property adjacent to the original structure, and after a complete remodeling job the new facilities are now in use.

There were times, during the past few months, when it seemed to UM employees that progress was a losing game, but now that the painters have packed up their brushes and the last of the carpenters are out of the corridors, plans are being made to pass on to library patrons the advantages gained by expansion. For example, the installation of a third film processing unit in the spring should make faster service a reality.

New Publications of Original Works

In her new bibliography published this month by microfilm-Xerography, Mary Elizabeth Poole has listed "history" references taken from the *Industrial Arts Index*. Miss Poole is a librarian at the D. H. Hill Library, North Carolina State College at Raleigh.

This compilation will be useful in any library where patrons want to do research on "the history of..." subjects covered by the *Industrial Arts Index*, from Accounting, Advertising and Aeronautics right through to X-Rays and Zinc. As in IAI, engineering and trade subject categories are alphabetically arranged.

Running to 119 typewritten pages which have been photographically reduced in size to about 6 x 9 inches, Miss Poole's bibliography is no. 440 in UM's O-P books project. It is available as a paperback at \$5.50 postpaid, when remittance accompanies order. This is the second of Miss Poole's bibliographies to be published by Xerography this year. The first was her *Documents Office Classification* described in the previous issue of *MICROCOSM* and available as O-P 16 for \$50.00

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Vol. IV

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MICROCOSM is a publication of University Microfilms, Inc., with central offices at 313 No. First Street., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MICROCOSM is intended to bring interesting news of microfilming in all of its phases to the attention of librarians and others who, in the opinion of the Publisher, will benefit by receiving it.

If you would like to receive MICROCOSM regularly, please send a postal card with your name and address to:

MICROCOSM

University Microfilms, Inc.
313 North First Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan




The two level, fireproof film vault is of steel and concrete construction to give maximum protection to important master negative files. Picture shows vault with pouring of concrete completed for lower level. The steel reinforcing rods shown extending from the lower part of the foot-thick masonry were further reinforced by closely-spaced horizontal rods before the upper level was poured. Roof construction is pre-stressed concrete supported by steel. Remainder of all-masonry building is block and brick.

Inset shows how completed vault is an integral unit, is not attached to main structure which entirely surrounds it. In event of disaster it is expected that the vault would stand even if rest of building is destroyed.

BUILDING [from page 1]

Principal features of the new part of the building include a two-level fireproof vault of steel and reinforced concrete construction five times the size of the old vault, new administrative offices, additional darkrooms, and adequate space for a new department for both color and black-and-white printing, and a new lunchroom for employees. The removal of these facilities from the older part of the structure has freed space for additional microfilm production. The entire working space has been refurbished and re-planned.

MICROCOSM readers are invited to follow the plans and programs in store for them in the months ahead through these pages, and of course to come on over to see UM's new look when in this part of the world. 



A pleasant smile awaits the visitor to University Microfilms. Cheerful receptionist is Joan Tardy, whose station is in the re-decorated lobby.


PUBLICATIONS [from page 1]

Another original work published in December by University Microfilms in its O-P books program, is Martin J. Buss' Old Testament Dissertations, 1928-1958.

In preparation for his own scholarly research Mr. Buss has compiled a list of dissertations dealing with old testament subjects. This bibliography should be a fruitful reference work for any library. Many of the dissertations are available through UM's microfilm program as film or as printed paper-bounds. Ask for O-P 529. \$3.00.

CREDIT LINES: Copy for the story on the 3-M Reader-Printer, and the accompanying picture, were furnished by Mr. Samuel P. Bates of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Microline article and picture are printed by courtesy of the Ozalid division of General Aniline and Film Corporation.

Dr. Vernon Tate, Librarian at the U. S. Naval Academy and Secretary of the National Microfilm Association, furnished data for the NMA announcement. Applicants for grants are well advised to not split infinitives when writing to Dr. Tate. 

push-button copies:

The 3-M Reader-Printer

A leading librarian recently remarked that the growing use of microfilm might cause a decline in the number of people doing reference and research work in America's libraries.

He was referring to a transition from the library of today to the library of the future, rather than to a decline in the amount of research work.

This librarian envisaged an increase in the use of microfilm to the point where thousands of volumes would be available on film to take out, just like books, for reading on home microfilm viewers.

Far fetched? Not at all.

Students, researchers, historians and many others could profit immensely from microfilm facilities in their own homes, thus expanding their ability to complete a job without confining their study to library hours.

When questioned about the practicality of microfilm equipment in the home, the librarian replied that many other items could and probably would be on microfilm for daily household use in the future: telephone directories, recipes for the housewife, address lists, dictionaries and encyclopedias, legal, insurance and tax records, and other items whose bulk increases rather than diminishes for most families.

While these uses of microfilm in the home are probably some years away, the dramatic increase in the use of microfilm in the post-war years points the way toward an almost unlimited future.

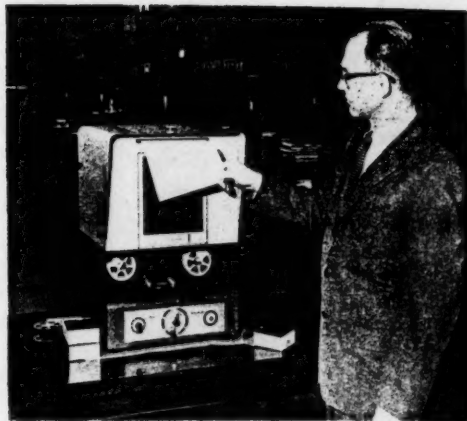
Libraries are among the pioneers in the use of microfilm to help shrink the bulky stacks of periodicals, pamphlets, newspapers and books to economical size. Added advantages are the safeguard against the possible loss or damage of original documents, the acquisition of rare or original works otherwise unavailable, and the preservation of ephemeral material.

In spite of its many virtues, microfilm has been somewhat limited in the past, since the copying of information from a viewer still confines the researcher to work during library hours. The possibility of error in copying information by hand and the loss of time for film to be sent outside for copying have been other obstacles in the path of increased use of microfilm.

All of these disadvantages have now been overcome with the introduction of a new member of the microfilm family, a unit that serves both as a regular microfilm reader and also makes enlarged copies of the film automatically by push button in less than eight seconds.

Called the "Thermo-Fax" brand microfilm reader-printer, the new unit is comparable in size to most table viewers and requires no special training to operate. Copies are made on special white paper which is ready for immediate use—either in the library or out.

Librarians, students and library patrons throughout the country have been quick to realize these advantages since an exact copy of the origi-



Russell F. Barnes, librarian of the James J. Hill Reference Library of St. Paul, one of the nation's leading reference libraries, operates a "Thermo-Fax" Microfilm Reader-Printer, which makes enlarged copies in only 8 seconds.

The Hill Library is supplied with microfilm by University Microfilms, who now provide negative as well as positive films of periodicals at no extra charge. The Reader-Printer is sold only by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company representatives.


nal—available in seconds without removing the film from the viewer—eliminates the previous major disadvantages.

Operation of the machine consists of merely turning a selector to move the microfilm for reading and pushing a button for the copy desired. Any number of prints can be made of a single frame—the operator merely keeps pressing the button. The reader-printer, made by the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., uses standard 110 volt A.C. current, and can be placed on any table or cabinet.

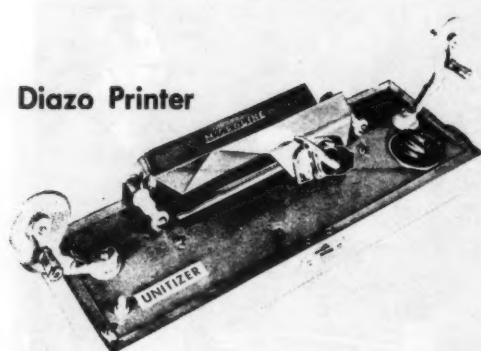
The reader-printer has further proved its versatility since it is adaptable to any microfilm format: whether the film is in long lengths on reels, in jackets or filing cards, the "Thermo-Fax" microfilm reader-printer operates with the same speed and efficiency.

Other firms and groups have also recognized the advantages of a reader and automatic printer combined in one unit, and the new machines are presently used by banks, retail stores, accounting firms, schools, manufacturing firms, government offices, hospitals, railroads, wholesalers, insurance; legal and engineering firms, and others.

The far-sighted librarian may well see his predictions come true in fewer years than he imagined.

Microfilmed cook books, telephone directories on microfilm, and copies of microfilm in eight seconds by push button were just theories a few years ago. Today they are practical, useful tools in operation throughout the country, bringing microfilm one step closer to the everyday activities of millions. 


Diazo Printer



Librarians who have the problem of searching and furnishing copies of single pages or articles from microfilmed books or periodicals can now do so easily and inexpensively by duplicating the microfilm right on the spot. The necessary equipment is the new Microline Unitizer, which has been designed specifically for single frame recording. Developed by the Microline Products Group, Ozalid Division of General Aniline and Film Corporation, the printer reproduces and unitizes in a single operation.

Like articles can be placed on the same piece of 35mm film, or can be unitized on the same film card. The cards come in standard sizes and can be filed in standard equipment. The cost is less than five cents for a 35mm strip 8 inches long—the longest that can be made on the printer.

Since the process utilizes diazo film, positive copies are made from positive microfilm, and negative copies result from negative film. The copies are contact printed and are the same size as the original microfilm from which they are made. Exposure time is less than a minute and dry, ammonia development takes little longer. The Unitizer operates on 115 volts, 60 cycles. A companion tube may be purchased for ammonia development.

Available from University Microfilms, the Unitizer sells for \$99.50. The developing unit is \$19.50. Diazo film 35mm wide sells for \$12.50 for a 500-foot roll. 


N M A ANNOUNCES TRAVEL GRANTS

Grants to be made to a limited number of technical supervisors in library photoduplication departments have been announced by Vernon Tate, Executive Secretary of the National Microfilm Association. The grants have been made possible through the Council on Library Resources, and are to be used to partially defray expenses of travel and maintenance for qualified technical personnel wishing to attend the Association's annual convention.

The meeting will be held April 2, 3 and 4 at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D. C., and according to Mr. Tate will be the largest and most elaborate in NMA history. In addition to the formal meetings an extensive exhibit of microfilm and allied equipment will be shown.

Applications for grants-in-aid should be addressed to The Secretary, National Microfilm Association, P. O. Box 386, Annapolis, Md.

A commemorative volume illustrating and describing all available American microfilm equipment will be distributed to registrants. This will be complete with illustrations, specifications, performance standards, etc., and is being compiled by Hubbard Ballou, Columbia University Library. The cost of this volume is being met by a further grant from the Council on Library Resources.

All those who have an interest in the technical aspects of miniature reproduction may attend the conference. Information concerning registration fees, etc., may be obtained from the Secretary. Hotel reservations should be made directly with the Mayflower Hotel. 

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